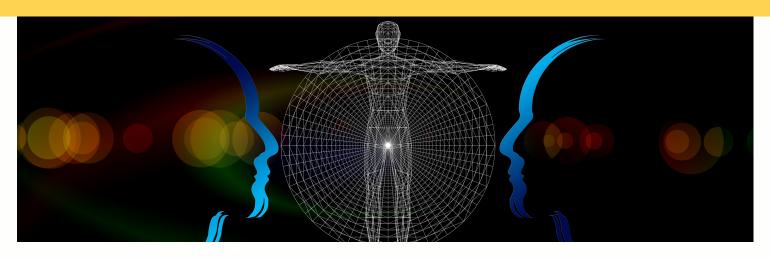


# OCTOBER 2021 | ISSUE 2

# THE MDBPTE QUARTERLY UPDATE

The Official Newsletter of The Maryland Board of Physical Therapy Examiners



## The Online Payment Center Is Here!

By John Bull, Deputy Director of Operations

As of November 1, 2021, the Board of Physical Therapy Examiners will no longer receive checks or money orders for payment. (\*With the exception of fines from investigative penalties)

The Board of Physical Therapy Examiners has a new online payment center. For the convenience of making certain payments to the Board by credit card, you can visit the payment center by clicking this <u>link</u>.

The payments for licensing will still be made as part of the application process and are not included in the payment center.

# Changes to USPS First-Class Delivery

By Laurie Kendall- Ellis, Executive Director

The United States Postal Service (USPS) as of October 1, 2021, is extending its standard first-class mail delivery time to up to 5 days.

We strongly recommend using our new Payment Center along with the corresponding online templates for transactions and communications with the Board.

License applications and renewals continue to be electronic payment only.

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

Licensing & Continuing
Education - 2
Investigations & COVID-19
Update -3
Board Members & Staff
Contact -4

# Welcome, Morgan!

by Khadija Ali, Project Manager

The Maryland Board of Physical Therapy Examiners (MDBPTE) is pleased to welcome Morgan Powell, our new Licensing Secretary.

Ms. Powell joined our team on August 4, 2021. She is a former early childhood educator with excellent organizational skills.

In just two months, she has helped the team make tremendous headway with our "Going Digital Project" along with many other tasks.

# Licensing Update

By Lisa Scott , Licensing Manager

The requirements for licensure are listed on our <u>website</u>, click on <u>APPLY FOR LICENSE</u>; Initial Licensure; If you have any further questions, please email, or call the Board office.

If you are applying by exam, in order for the Maryland Board to make you eligible to sit for the National Physical Therapy Examination (NPTE), we must have a paid application, an official transcript with the date and degree conferred on the transcript. Once we receive your documents, we can make you eligible to sit for the exam.

## Foreign Educated

If you are applying by exam, and Foreign Educated,

in order for the Maryland Board to make you eligible to sit for the NPTE, we must have a paid

application, credential evaluation, and proof of oral

competence. Once we receive your oral competency and credential evaluation, we can then

email you a waiver of the Test of English as

Foreign Language (TOEFL) and you can then submit

it to the Federation of State Boards of Physical

Therapy (FSBPT).

Questions? Contact Licensing Manager Lisa Scott at lisa.scott@maryland.gov

"Our vision is to ensure physical therapists and physical therapist assistants meet and exceed the physical therapy standards of practice to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all Marylanders"





Change of Name and Address Form

# 2022 CEU Deadline for License Renewal

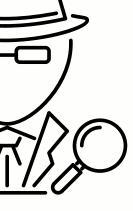
By Isaac Okehie, Deputy Director of Administration CEUS FOR 2022 RENEWAL PERIOD MUST BE EARNED BETWEEN APRIL 1, 2020, AND MARCH 31, 2022.

The Board is encouraging licensees to start earning the required CEUs for 2022 renewal (three (3) CEUs or thirty (30) CE hours for PTs, and two (2) CEUs or twenty (20) CE hours for PTAs) to do so not later than March 31, 2022.

REMINDER: Any CE hours earned between April 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021, used for 2020 renewal can not be used for 2022 renewal.

Questions? Contact Deputy Director of Administration Okehie @ Ogui.Okehie@maryland.gov





# Investigations: When to File a Complaint

By John Bull, Deputy Director of Operations

As a member of the public, it is your responsibility to file a complaint as soon as you have reasonable cause. If you believe that a professional is unable to practice safely, has engaged in unprofessional conduct, and/ or has violated the law or the Maryland Physical Therapy Practice Act.

For more information about Reporting to the Maryland Board of Physical Therapy Examiners, please download our <u>Report</u> Brochure!



When in doubt, give us a call at (410) 764-4718 to speak to an investigator!

Links:

**Open Session Meeting Minutes** 

**Open Session Meeting Agenda** 

**Maryland Practice Act** 

**COVID- 19 Pandemic Orders and Guidance** 

FAQs



# **COVID-19 Update**

By Khadija Ali, Project Manager

Over 8 million Marylanders have been vaccinated, which superseded the state's goal!

On September 24, 2021, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) approved the Pfizer COVID 19 booster shot for seniors and high-risk individuals. The boosters are now being administered to seniors in congregate settings.

Now that students are back in classrooms, Maryland continues to push for the expedited approval of vaccines for children between the ages of 5 and 11.

# Virtual Board Meetings

- Board Meetings\* are open to the public and are scheduled for the
- third Tuesday of the month at 1:00
- PM. Agendas are posted on our website. Join by phone:
  - (US)+1(301) 882-3047 PIN: 7209
  - 935 914# Join by Video (copy and
    - paste this link):
  - meet.google.com/rbpmkdk-pbi
    \*In-person meetings will tentatively resume in
    - 2022 Agenda



# **Board Members**

Karen Gordes, PT, Ph.D., DSCPT, Chair Rebecca Holsinger, PT, DPT, NCS, CVTP, Vice Chair Samuel Esterson, PT, DPT, MBA, OCS, Member Michelle Finnegan, PT, DPT, OCS, MTC, CCTT, CMTPT, FAAOMPT, Member, Liaison to APTA of Maryland Sumesh Thomas, PT, DPT, OCS, CHT, FAAOMPT, Member Enjeen Woolford, PTA, Member James Connors, Public Member Meredith Levert, Public Member

## Office Information

### Office Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00a.m - 4:30p.m (Except State Holidays & When Closed For Inclement Weather)

Phone: (410) 764-4718 Fax: (410) 358-1183 TTY 800-542-4964

Email: mbpte@maryland.gov

### **Mailing Address:**

Maryland Department of Health Board of Physical Therapy Examiners Metro Executive Building 4201 Patterson Avenue Baltimore, MD. 21215-2299

"Our mission is to protect the health, safety and welfare of all Marylanders through the promotion and oversight of the Physical Therapy Practice Act"

## **Board Staff Contact List**

### Laurie Kendall-Ellis, PT, CAE

Executive Director Primary 443-610-8047 Secondary 410-764-4751 Laurie.Kendall-Ellis@maryland.gov

#### Isaac Okehie

Deputy Director of Administration Primary 410-913-1726 Secondary 410-764-4716 Ogui.Okehie@maryland.gov

#### John Bull

Deputy Director of Operations Primary 443-571-5403 Secondary 410-764-4715 john.bull@maryland.gov

### Khadija Ali

Project Manager Continuing Education/Dry Needling Primary 410-913-1765 Secondary 410-764-3833 khadija.ali1@maryland.gov

#### **Andrew Rosenfeld**

Investigative Supervisor Primary 443-571-1874 Secondary 410-764-4713 andrew.rosenfeld1@maryland.gov

#### Lisa Y. Scott

Licensing Manager Primary 410-913-9926 Secondary 410-764-4746 lisa.scott@maryland.gov

#### **Sharon Harris-Friend**

Data Entry & Records Management Supervisor Primary 410-913-1147 Secondary 410-764-4238 sharon.harris-friend@maryland.gov

## Morgan Powell

Licensing Secretary
Primary 410-913-3441
Secondary 410-764-4752
morganr.powell@maryland.gov